

135-2 Warsaw Street
Deep River, CT 06417
March 4, 2013

Finance, Revenue, and Bonding Committee
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Mr. Chairman Fonfara and Madam Chairwoman Widlitz,

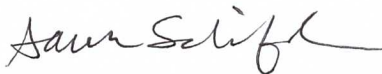
I am writing to you and the committee today to ask you to not support the portion of Senate Bill 843, An Act Concerning Revenue Items to Implement the Governor's Budget, that proposes the elimination of the local property tax on automobiles valued less than \$20,000.

There will be a negative impact on municipal budgets, especially in small towns like Deep River. Most of our town's budget expense is education, and it makes sense for the people living in the town to be funding the schools in the town. The primary way for towns to recoup lost revenue is to raise the mill rate and increase property taxes. I know of many elderly citizens living in my area on a fixed income, and an increase in their real estate property taxes could be disastrous for them.

This proposal would penalize the purchase of a new, more environmentally-friendly vehicle (likely valued at greater than \$20,000). Federal mandates are put in place for manufacturers to increase the efficiency of their product. Then the state makes a policy that encourages people to keep their old car, likely valued less than \$20,000. This seems rather counterproductive since the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection works so diligently to maintain air quality standards.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dawn Schieferdecker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dawn Schieferdecker
Citizen of Deep River, CT